			Procedu . 2 of 1968, as		<b>port</b> d P.A. 71 of 1919	), as amended.			
_		_	vernment Typ			·	Local Unit Name	<u> </u>	County
	Cour	ıty	☐City	⊠Twp	∐Village	□Other	Hatton Town	ship	Clare
1	cal Yea			•	Opinion Date		•	Date Audit Report Submitted to St	ate
00	3/30/	2006	<del></del> -		09/01/200	6		10-27-2006	
We	affirn	that	t:						
We	are c	ertifie	ed public ac	countants	licensed to p	ractice in M	lichigan.		
We Mar	furthe agen	er aff nent	irm the follo Letter (repo	owing mate ort of comm	erial, "no" resp nents and rec	onses have ommendati	e been disclosed ons).	d in the financial statements,	including the notes, or in the
	YES	8	Check ea	ıch applic	able box belo	ow. (See in	structions for fu	ther detail.)	
1.	X		All require reporting	ed compon entity note	ent units/fund s to the financ	ls/agencies cial stateme	of the local unit ents as necessar	are included in the financial y.	statements and/or disclosed in the
2.		X	There are (P.A. 275	no accum of 1980) o	ulated deficits or the local un	s in one or r iit has not e	more of this unit exceeded its bud	s unreserved fund balances, get for expenditures.	/unrestricted net assets
3.	X		The local	unit is in c	ompliance wit	h the Unifo	rm Chart of Acc	ounts issued by the Departm	ent of Treasury.
4.	X		The local	unit has ac	dopted a budg	get for all re	quired funds.		
5.	×		A public h	earing on	the budget wa	as held in a	ccordance with	State statute.	
6.	X		The local	unit has no	ot violated the	Municipal I		order issued under the Emer	rgency Municipal Loan Act, or
7.	X		The local	unit has no	ot been deling	uent in dist	ributing tax reve	nues that were collected for	another taxing unit.
8.	X							th statutory requirements.	· ·
9.	X		The local	unit has no	illegal or una	authorized e	expenditures tha	t came to our attention as de (see Appendix H of Bulletin).	efined in the <i>Bulletin for</i>
10.	X		that have	not been p	reviously com	nmunicated	to the Local Au-	nt, which came to our attenti dit and Finance Division (LAI der separate cover.	ion during the course of our audit FD). If there is such activity that has
11.		×	The local i	unit is free	of repeated c	omments fr	om previous ye	ars.	
12.		X	The audit	opinion is l	UNQUALIFIE	D.			
13.		×	The local u	unit has co accounting	mplied with G principles (G	ASB 34 or AAP). 🖺 🥞	GASB 34 as mo	odified by MCGAA Statemen	t #7 and other generally
14.	X		The board	or council	approves all	invoices pri	or to payment a	s required by charter or statu	ute.
15.	X		To our kno	wledge, b	ank reconcilia	tions that w	ere reviewed w	ere performed timely.	
inclu des	ided criptic	in th on(s)	is or any o of the auth	other audit ority and/c	t report, nor o or commission	do they obt	included) is ope ain a stand-alo d accurate in all	ne audit, please enclose th	of the audited entity and is not ne name(s), address(es), and a
			losed the			Enclosed		nter a brief justification)	
			ements			$\boxtimes$	7	,,	
The	lette	r of C	comments a	and Recon	mendations	$\nabla$			

Other (Describe) Certified Public Accountant (Firm Name) Telephone Number Page Olson & Company P.C., CPA's 989-773-5494 Street Address State Zip 2865 South Lincoln Read P.O. Box 368 48804 - 0386 Mt. Pleasant Mi Authorizing CPA Signature Printed Name License Number Bobbie Jo Marr 1101026172

# HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY STATE OF MICHIGAN AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

### HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

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#### HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

#### **SUPERVISOR**

William Hileman

**CLERK** 

Janet Trietch

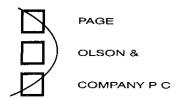
**TREASURER** 

Patricia Shull

**TRUSTEES** 

David Farrell

Bill Guiette



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

September 1, 2006

Township Board Township of Hatton Clare County, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying statements of assets and liabilities arising from cash transactions of the Township of Hatton as of June 30, 2006, and the related statement of revenue collected and expenditures paid for the year then ended, as listed in the Table of Contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Township of Hatton. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The Township of Hatton has a population of less than 4,000 people and is therefore required by Act 46, Public Acts of 1996 of the State of Michigan, to have an independent audit only biennially. The preceding year has thus not been audited; however, we have performed various tests of the opening balances.

As described in the Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Note 1-C, the Township prepared its financial statements on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

As described in Note 1-C, the Township prepared these financial statements using the minimum accounting practices prescribed by the Michigan Department of Treasury to demonstrate compliance with the State's accounting and budget laws, which practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The financial statements referred to above do not include the Management Discussion and Analysis or the Government Wide statement presentation that should be included in order to conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, because of the omission of the government-wide financial statements and the Managements Discussion and Analysis, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, the assets, liabilities, and cash basis fund balance of the individual funds of the Township of Hatton as of June 30, 2006, arising from cash transactions and its revenue collected, expenditures paid and changes in cash basis fund balance for the year ended, in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1-C.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements. The Other Supplemental Information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The General Fixed Assets Schedule has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Our report of comments and recommendations is included herein and forms a part of this report.

Page, Olien & Company

## HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2006

Statement I

	Cemetery Perpetual Care					
	Gen	General Fund		Fund		Total
Assets						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	58,988	\$	801	\$	59,789
Certificates of Deposit	<u></u> .	291,423		2,238	_	293,661
Total Assets	\$	350,411	\$	3,039	\$	353,450
Cash Basis Fund Balances						
Reserved - Non-expendable	\$	-	\$	2,981	\$	2,981
Unreserved - Undesignated	<del></del>	350,411		58		350,469
Total Cash Basis Fund Balance	\$	350,411	\$	3,039	\$	353,450

## HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY STATEMENT OF REVENUE COLLECTED, EXPENDITURES PAID, AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Statement II

_	Ger	eral Fund	Ceme Perpetua Fun	l Care		Total
Revenue Property Taxes Licenses and Permits Intergovernmental Revenue Interest and Dividend Earnings	\$	53,739 1,530 78,913 5,880	\$	- - - 58	\$	53,739 1,530 78,913 5,938
Land Division Act Charges for Services Cable Service Fees Cemetery Fees		400 963 908		- - - -	_	400 963 908
Total Revenue		142,333		58		142,391
Expenditures						
GENERAL GOVERNMENT Township Board		6,343				6,343
Supervisor		6,262		-		6,262
Assessor Elections		9,217		-		9,217
Accounting and Auditing		9,357 145		-		9,357
Attorney		614		_		145 614
Clerk		9,159		_		9,159
Deputy Clerk		666		_		666
Voters Registration		76		-		76
Board of Review		935		-		935
Treasurer		10,342		-		10,342
Township Hall and Grounds		2,115		-		2,115
Cemetery	·	1,679				<u>1,679</u>
Total General Government		56,910		-		56,910
PUBLIC SAFETY						
Fire Protection		14,903		-		14,903
Zoning Inspector Land Division Act		323 200		-		323
	<del></del>					200
Total Public Safety		15,426		-		15,426
PUBLIC WORKS Highways and Streets		44,500		-		44,500
CULTURE AND RECREATION Library Contracted Services		4,384		-		4,384
PLANNING						-
Planning Board/Commission		2,679		-		2,679

## HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY STATEMENT OF REVENUE COLLECTED, EXPENDITURES PAID, AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Statement II

					<del>)</del>		
Expenditures (Continued)	General Fund			petual Care Fund		Total	
, ,							
OTHER FUNCTIONS Fringe Benefits Insurance Not Charged of Specific Activities	\$ —	750 3,478	\$	-	\$	750 3,478	
Total Other Functions		4,228				4,228	
Total Expenditures		128,127		-		128,127	
Net Change in Cash Basis Fund Balance		14,206		58		14,264	
Cash Basis Fund Balance - July 1		336,205		2,981		339,186	
Cash Basis Fund Balance - June 30	\$	350,411	\$	3,039	\$	353,450	

## HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY STATEMENT OF CASH BASIS FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS FIDUCIARY FUNDS JUNE 30, 2006

Statement III

Assets Cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$</u>	20
Liabilities Undistributed Taxes	<u>\$</u>	20
HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FIDUCIARY NET FIDUCIARY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006	ASSETS	<b>;</b>
	Sta	tement IV
ADDITIONS Collections: Property Taxes	\$	574,619
Investment Income: Interest		56
Total Additions		574,675
DEDUCTIONS Disbursements: Distributed Taxes Refunds		573,920 745
Total Deductions		574,665
Change in Cash Basis Net Assets		10
Cash Basis Net Assets - July 1		10
Cash Basis Net Assets - June 30	<u>\$</u>	20

#### HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Hatton Township is a general law Michigan township with a population of less than 4,000 people. The Township is governed by a five member board of officials elected by the Township voters.

#### A. FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY

In evaluating how to define the government, for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential agencies and organizations. The decision to include a potential agency or organization in the reporting entity was made by applying the criteria set forth by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 14. Generally, component units are legally separate organizations for which the elected officials of the Township are financially accountable. Financial accountability is determined by the Township's ability to impose its will on the component unit, as well as the unit's significance regarding operational and financial relationship with the Township. Based upon the application of this criteria there were no other units to be included in the financial statements.

#### B. FUND ACCOUNTING

The accounts of the Township are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balance, revenue, and expenditures as appropriate. The various funds of the Township are as follows:

#### **GENERAL FUND**

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Township. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### **PERMANENT FUND**

#### Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund:

The Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund is used to account for resources that are legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the cemetery. At June 30, 2004 the Township of Hatton restricted all funds designated in the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund for the purpose of establishing the principal in the fund to generate income. Going forward, it is the Township's intention that all future lot sales and investment income generated from the principal in this fund be used for the maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery.

#### AGENCY FUND

#### Current Property Tax Fund:

The Current Property Tax Collections Fund is used to account for assets held by the Township as an agent for individuals, other governments, and/or other funds. This fund is custodial in nature and does not involve measurement of the results of operations.

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### C. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING AND PRESENTATION

The accounting books and records of the Township of Hatton are maintained on a cash basis of accounting during the year and the financial statements have been prepared directly from these books and records. The financial statements do not, therefore, give effect to accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued items. Additionally, it does not give effect to the recording of capital assets or related depreciation or accumulated depreciation.

Significant non-cash transactions, however, are reported in the financial statements when their omission would cause the statements to be misleading. In the event of such transactions, a revenue and related expenditure is recognized at amounts equal to the fair value of the non-cash transaction.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements -- and Management's Discussion and Analysis -- for State and Local Governments sets forth the required financial reporting formats for local governments in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Local Audit and Finance Division of the Michigan Department of Treasury responsible for overseeing local unit compliance has determined that omission of the Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Government-Wide Statements and/or Infrastructure Reporting will not result in any sanctions or remediation, as such the Township has elected to omit these sections of the GASB 34 reporting format.

#### D. PROPERTY TAXES

Hatton Township levies a millage of 0.8018, a fire millage of 0.9632 plus a 1% administration fee for general operations. The Township property tax is levied on December 1. Taxes are payable on a current basis from December 1 to February 28, at which point they become delinquent.

Receipts of current and delinquent property taxes are recorded as revenue in the year in which received. Clare County, the county in which the Township of Hatton is located, has a delinquent tax revolving fund whereby the County pays the Township for its delinquent real property taxes. It then becomes the County's responsibility to collect these delinquent taxes from the various taxpayers.

#### NOTE 2 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Budgetary Information - Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with the basis of accounting utilized by the Township and state law for the general fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year end.

#### HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

#### NOTE 2 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CONTINUED)

The budget document presents information at the line item level. The legal level of budgetary control adopted by the board (i.e. the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the function level for the general fund. State law requires the Township to have its budget in place by July 1. Expenditures in excess of amounts budgeted is a violation of Michigan Law. State law permits Townships to amend its budgets during the year. The Township amended its budget at various times during the year.

Michigan Public Act 621 of 1978 provides that a local unit shall not incur expenditures in excess of the amount appropriated based on the level of control exercised over the adopted budget. Budgets are adopted on an activity level for the General Fund. Disclosure of all unfavorable appropriation variances based on the level of control exercised over the adopted budget is as follows:

	Appr	opriation	Expe	enditures	 Excess
Election	\$	3,910	\$	9,357	\$ 5,447

The excess was due to the recognition of a non-cash donation received by the township from the state of Michigan that required recognition of both a revenue and expenditure that was not amended for in the budget.

#### NOTE 3 - CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 129.91, authorizes the Township to deposit and invest in the accounts of Federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations.

Investments can also be made in bonds, securities and other obligations of the United States, or an agency or instrumentality of the United States; repurchase agreements consisting of bonds, securities, and other obligations of the United States or an agency or instrumentality of the United States; bankers' acceptances of United States banks, obligations of this State or any of its political subdivisions that at the time of purchase are rated as investment grade by not less than one standard rating service; commercial paper rated within the two highest classifications by not less than two standard rating services which mature not more than 270 days after the date of purchase; mutual funds registered under the investment company act of 1940, with the authority to purchase only investment by a public corporation; obligations described above if purchased through an inter-local agreement under the urban cooperations act of 1967, PA 7, MCL 124.501 to 124.512; investment pools organized under the surplus funds investment pool act, 1982 PA 367, 129.111 to 129.118, and the investments pools organized under the local government investment pool act, 1985 PA 121, MCL 129.141 to 129.150.

Michigan law prohibits security in the form of collateral, surety bonds, or other forms for the deposit of public money. The Township's deposits are in accordance with statutory authority.

The Township of Hatton's cash and investments during the year consisted of cash in checking accounts and certificates of deposit. This is in accordance with statutory authority and within local unit authorization.

#### HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

#### NOTE 3 - CASH AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### **Carrying Amount**

At year end, the carrying amount of cash and investments held by the Township of Hatton was

Deposits with financial institutions:

Cash in Checking	\$ 59,008
Cash in Savings	801
Certificates of Deposit	293,661
	\$ 353,470

On June 30, 2006 the carrying amount of deposits with financial institutions was \$353,470 of which \$322,047 was covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and \$31,423 was uninsured and uncollateralized. Actual deposits with financial institutions were \$384,002 of which \$352,012 was covered by the FDIC and \$31,993 was uninsured and uncollateralized.

Due to varying cash flows the Township's deposits with financial institutions were higher during the year than at year end. Therefore, there may have been more deposits that were uninsured and uncollateralized at points during the year.

#### NOTE 4 - SIGNIFICANT NON-CASH TRANSACTIONS

During the year ended June 30, 2006, Hatton Township received voting equipment valued at \$9,100 from the State of Michigan. The non-cash transaction was recognized as intergovernmental revenue and as capital outlay in the General Fund elections activity at the stated fair market value.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION** 

## HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION CASH BASIS BUDGETARY COMPARISON STATEMENT - GENERAL FUND YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Schedule 1

		_		_	
	Origina	l	Final Amended		
	Budget		Budget		Actual
Revenue					
Property Taxes	\$ 37,7	75 9	\$ 37,775	\$	53,739
Licenses and Permits	<del>-</del> -	500	500	Ψ	1,530
Intergovernmental Revenue	60,0		60,000		78,913
Interest and Dividend Earnings	3,0		3,050		5,880
Land Division Act		00	100		400
Charges for Services	'	-	100		963
Cable Service Fees	a	00	900		908
Cemetery Fees		<del></del> -			<del>-</del>
Total Revenue	102,3	25	102,325		142,333
Expenditures					
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
Township Board	5,5	06	8,486		6,343
Supervisor	6,9	72	6,972		6,262
Assessor	12,7	00	12,700		9,217
Elections	3,9	10	3,910		9,357
Accounting and Auditing	2,9	00	2,900		145
Attorney	1,7	75	2,090		614
Clerk	11,1:	27	11,127		9,159
Deputy Clerk	1,40	00	1,400		666
Voters Registration	56	30	560		76
Board of Review	1,5	52	1,552		935
Treasurer	11,19	92	11,392		10,342
Deputy Treasurer	20	00	200		· <u>-</u>
Township Hall and Grounds	28,26	62	28,262		2,115
Cemetery	3,26	<u> </u>	3,262		1,679
Total General Government	91,31	18	94,813		56,910
PUBLIC SAFETY					
Fire Protection	17,00	00	23,846		14,903
Zoning Inspector	1,10		1,108		323
Blight Enforcement	79		797		-
Sign Ordinance	81		819		_
Land Division Act	20		200		200
Total Public Safety	19,92		26,770		15,426
PUBLIC WORKS	,		,		, - <del></del>
	05.00		44 500		44 = 55
Highways and Streets	25,00	IJ	44,500		44,500
CULTURE AND RECREATION					
Library					
Contracted Services	4,80	0	4,800		4,384

## HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION CASH BASIS BUDGETARY COMPARISON STATEMENT - GENERAL FUND YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

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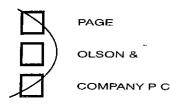
		Original Budget	<u> </u>	
Expenditures (Continued)				
PLANNING Planning Board/Commission/Appeals	\$	4,699	\$ 5,008	\$ 2,679
OTHER FUNCTIONS Insurance Not Charged of Specific Activities	_	6,000	6,000	4,228
Total Expenditures		151,741	181,891	128,127
Net Change in Cash Basis Fund Balance		(49,416)	(79,566)	14,206
Cash Basis Fund Balance - July 1		336,205	336,205	336,205
Cash Basis Fund Balance - June 30	<u>\$</u>	286,789	\$ 256,639	\$ 350,411

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

#### HATTON TOWNSHIP, CLARE COUNTY OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION CASH BASIS GENERAL FIXED ASSETS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Schedule 2

	Cost or Estimated Value at 7/1/05	I Additions	Deletions	Cost or Estimated Value at 6/30/06
<u>Land</u>				
Township Grounds - Land				
Improvements	\$ 130	+ \$ -	\$ -	\$ 130
Cemetery - Land Improvements				
and Capital Outlay	<u> </u>	<del>-</del>	-	1,940
Total Land	2,070	-	-	2,070
Buildings				
Township Hall and Buildings				
(Estimated Value)	15,000	_	_	15,000
Building Additions and	,			.0,000
Improvements	7,049	_	_	7,049
Storage Building	254			254
Total Buildings	22,303	-	-	22,303
<u>Equipment</u>				
Adding Machines	40	-	-	40
File Cabinets	1,699	-	-	1,699
Ballot Boxes	30	-	-	<sup>2</sup> 30
Eight Chairs	100	-	_	100
Copy Machine and Stand	400	-	-	400
Furnace	150	-	-	150
Folding Tables	80	-	-	80
Eighteen Stackable Chairs	300	-	-	300
Coat Rack	15	-	-	15
Floor Fans	15	-	-	15
Floor Mats	20	-	-	20
Grease Bulletin Board	30	-	-	30
Phone	20	-	•	20
Safe	40	-	-	40
Optical Scan Election Equipment 2005	-	1,800	_	1,800
Auto Mark HAVA Election Equipment 6/2006	-	7,000	-	7,000
Auto Mark Table 6/2006	-	300	-	300
Voting Devices	400	-	-	400
Total Equipment	3,339	9,100	-	12,439
Total General Fixed Assets	\$ 27,712	\$ 9,100	\$ -	\$ 36,812



### AUDIT COMMUNICATION AND REPORT OF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

September 1, 2006

Township Board Township of Hatton Clare County, Michigan

We have recently completed our audit of the financial statements of the Township of Hatton for the year ended June 30, 2006 As required by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States, the independent auditor is required to make several communications to the governing body having oversight responsibility for the audit. The purpose of this communication is to provide you with additional information regarding the scope and results of our audit that may assist you with your oversight responsibilities of the financial reporting process for which management is responsible.

### <u>AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER AUDITING STANDARDS GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN THE UNITED STATES</u>

We conducted our audit of the financial statements of the Township of Hatton in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. The following paragraph explains our responsibilities under those standards.

Management has the responsibility for adopting sound accounting policies, for maintaining an adequate and effective system of accounts, for the safeguarding of assets, and for devising an internal control structure that will, among other things, help to assure the proper recording of transactions. The transactions that should be reflected in the accounts and in the financial statements are matters within the direct knowledge and control of management. Our knowledge of such transactions is limited to that acquired through our audit. Accordingly, the fairness of representations made through the financial statements is an implicit and integral part of management's accounts and records. However, our responsibility for the financial statements is confined to the expression of an opinion on them. The financial statements remain the representations of management.

The concept of materiality is inherent in the work of an independent auditor. An auditor places greater emphasis on those items that have, on a relative basis, more importance to the financial statements and greater possibilities of material error than with those items of lesser importance or those in which the possibility of material error is remote.

For this purpose, materiality has been defined as "the magnitude of an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would have been changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement."

An independent auditor's objective of an audit is to obtain sufficient competent evidential matter to provide a reasonable basis for forming an opinion on the financial statements. In doing so, the auditor must work within economic limits; the opinion, to be economically useful, must be formed within a reasonable length of time and at a reasonable cost. That is why an auditor's work is based on selected tests rather than an attempt to verify all transactions. Since evidence is examined on a test basis only, an audit provides only reasonable assurance, rather than absolute assurance, that financial statements are free of material misstatement. Thus, there is a risk that audited financial statements may contain undiscovered material errors or irregularities. The existence of that risk is implicit in the phrase in the audit report, "in our opinion."

In the audit process, we gain an understanding of the internal control structure of an entity for the purpose of assisting in determining the nature, timing, and extent of audit testing. Our understanding is obtained by inquiry of management, testing transactions, and observation and review of documents and records. The amount of work done is not sufficient to provide a basis for an opinion on the adequacy of the internal control structure.

#### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Auditing standards call for us to inform you regarding the initial selection of, and changes in, significant accounting policies or their application. In addition, we are expected to inform you about the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and the effect of significant accounting polices in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

The significant accounting policies are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. Other information related to implementation of GASB 34 is discussed further in the other communications section.

#### **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

Auditing standards call for us to inform you of other significant issues such as, but not limited to, 1) Accounting estimates that are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements or because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments; 2) Significant audit adjustments that may not have been detected except through the auditing procedures we performed; 3) Disagreements with management regarding the scope of the audit or application of accounting principles; 4) Consultation with other accountants; 5) Major issues discussed with management prior to retention; and 6) Difficulties encountered in performing the audit.

### <u>COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING INTERNAL CONTROLS/COMPLIANCE/EFFICIENCY</u>

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Hatton Township, for the year ended June 30, 2006, we considered its internal control in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on internal control. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal control that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Township's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements.

#### COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING INTERNAL CONTROLS/COMPLIANCE/ EFFICIENCY (CONTINUED)

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that we believe to be material weaknesses.

#### Reportable Conditions (Material Weaknesses)

Property Tax Disbursements (Repeated comment with modification)

Public Act 211, of 1979 mandates that units with a Taxable Value greater than \$15,000,000 must remit to the Schools and the County total taxes collected through the 1st and the 15th day of each month within ten business days after the 1st and 15th day of each month. This applies to the months of December, January, and February. In addition the treasurer must remit at least 90% of the total amount of School and County collections on hand at February 28 (29) within ten business days after the end of February. It appears that disbursement are made timely through out the year. However, the amounts collected on February 28, and March 2, were not disbursed until March 22, and March 27. This is 20 days or more from the collection date which does not meet the 10 business day rule mentioned above.

#### Property Tax Receipts (Repeated comment with modification)

During Property Tax Receipt testing it was noted that 1 deposit was made several days after the taxes were collected. Deposits should be made at least weekly and more frequently when the amounts collected are material in amount.

#### Other Reportable Conditions

#### **Disbursement Approval**

While reading the minutes for the Township, noted that there were several check numbers missing from the sequence of checks that are approved each month for bill payment that were voided checks. The township should take careful measures to ensure that all approved disbursements; including check number, vendor, name, and amount, are noted in the minutes including those that have been voided, as an additional control feature and so such authentication can be performed.

#### Property Tax Disbursements Made to the Township

It was also noted that the Township made only one transfer at year end from the tax account to the general fund for the Township's share of Property Taxes. We recommend that amounts be disbursed in a timely manner upon receipt regardless of the entity to which they are being disbursed.

### <u>COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING INTERNAL CONTROLS/COMPLIANCE/</u> <u>EFFICIENCY (CONTINUED)</u>

#### Other Reportable Conditions (Continued)

#### Expenditures in Excess of Appropriations

Page, Olson & Company

During testing of Fixed Assets it was noted that new voting equipment was donated to the township through a grant from the state of Michigan. Although the township reports under the cash basis of accounting certain non-cash transactions are still required to be reported on the face of the statements. Therefore a revenue and expenditure was recorded for the donation causing the elections expenditure to go over budget. It is recommended that budget amendments are made to adjust for such transactions.

#### Financial Oversight

The general limitations in a smaller government require that the Township Board Members continue to remain involved in the financial affairs of the Township through oversight of operation, development of the annual budget, inquiries about variance between budgeted and actual amounts shown in the financial statements, and the independent review of critical functions. This comment is intended to emphasize the importance of this oversight and to remind the board of its continued obligation to perform accordingly.

These conditions were considered in determining the nature, timing and extent of the audit tests to be applied to our audit of the Township's financial statements and this communication of these matters does not affect our report on the Township's financial statements, dated September 1, 2006.

#### SUMMARY

We would like to thank the Township personnel and Officials for the cooperation we received from them throughout the course of the audit. We welcome any questions you may have regarding the foregoing comments, and we would be happy to discuss any questions that you might have at your convenience.

This communication is intended for the information of the members of the Township Board, management, and the State of Michigan, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.